

Faculty of Community Services

Academic Support & Resource Centre

APA Format: In-Text Citations

Always include the author and date in your in-text citations. For example:

- They can both be in the brackets (Angeli et al., 2010).
- Angeli et al. (2010) says that you can put the author in the main text.

If you are using a direct quotation, include the page number if there is one. For example:

- “You will need to include the author, year of publication, and the page number for this reference” (Angeli et al., 2010, p.100).
- You will want to paraphrase more often than use direct quotations. Use direct quotations if the specific words the author used are important for your work; for example, if they define a term.
- If there is no page number, go by paragraph number: “When there is no page number but you are using a direct quote, identify the paragraph number” (Angeli et al., 2010, paras. 7)

Within a paragraph, you need not include the year in subsequent references. For example:

- Smith (1997) compared reaction times. Smith also found that...

All sources that are cited in the text must appear in the reference list at the end of the paper.

Rules for one author	Provide the author's last name and the publication year. ✓ Smith (1997) compared reaction times...
Rules for two authors	Include the last name of each and the publication year. Use the word “and” if you are putting their names in your text, use the symbol “&” if you are putting their names in brackets: ✓ ...as James and Ryerson (1999) demonstrated.. ✓ ...as has been shown (James & Ryerson, 1999)...
Rules for three or more authors	This citation will only include the first author’s name followed by “et al.” and the year the first time. This must be cited the first time and in subsequent citations: ✓ ...research supports this (Williams et al., 1983). ✓ Williams et al. (1983) also noticed that...
Rules for unknown authors	If the source used does not have an author listed, cite the source according to its title. If the title is long, use the first word or two or a single phrase in brackets: ✓ This is how to cite without an author (“Citations 101,” 2020). It is also important to note that if the source has an organization as its author, then it is important to mention the organization name in brackets or a single phrase when introducing it. This would be similar to if you were citing an author: ✓ The American Psychological Association (APA, 2020),...
Rules for indirect citations	If you use a source that was cited in another source, name the original source in the text. Put the source that you actually read in brackets. ✓ Johnson argued that...(as cited in Smith, 2003, p. 102). It would be academically stronger to look up the original paper and draw your own conclusions from the original source.

References

Myers, M., Paiz, J., Angeli, E., Wagner, J., Lawrick, E., Moore, K., Anderson, M.,...Keck, R. (2019, December 20). *General format*. Purdue Online Writing Lab.
https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/purdue_owl.html